

9/16 ^{chp} ~~some information relating to at least some of the aircraft engines identified from the database search.~~

65. (once amended) A computer-readable medium, comprising:

sub ~~a record of customer submitted availability queries, the customer submitted availability queries includes criteria of equipment to be leased and additional lease requirements;~~

Q ~~a plurality of rules for matching equipment information to the customer submitted availability queries, the equipment information including specifications for each piece of equipment, and if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;~~

~~a first record of results from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted availability queries; and~~

~~a second record of results from information entered by a lessor to modify the customer submitted availability queries.~~

69. (once amended) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein said first record of results comprises a result number, a query number, and a term sheet request.

Remarks

The Office Action mailed January 28, 2003 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof. Submitted herewith is a Submission of Marked Up Claims. Claims 1, 6, 9, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33-35, 38, 41, 43, 47-49, 51, 54-56, 58, 61-63, 65, and 69 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a one-month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated January 28, 2003 for the above-identified patent application from April 28, 2003 through and including May 28, 2003. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2), authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of \$110.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith.

Claims 1-70 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-70 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1-70 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Joseph (U.S. Patent Application Pub. 2001/0034690) is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that Joseph does not describe nor suggest the claimed invention. As discussed below, at least one of the differences between Joseph and the present invention is that Joseph neither describes nor suggests prompting a customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for a selected lease transaction type wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements, matching the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules, receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document, and generating the at least one document using the modified customer provided information.

Joseph describes a method for facilitating transfer of automobile leases (see page 1, paragraph 6). The method involves providing a website which displays a menu giving a visitor an option of either creating a record including details of the visitor and of a leased automobile whose lease the visitor intends to assign, or viewing a list of records, each record including a description of a leased automobile and an owner thereof (see page 1, paragraph 6). If the visitor intends to create a record, the visitor is directed to a page at the website where the visitor can input information pertaining to a leased automobile and information to enable another visitor to the website to contact the visitor (see page 1, paragraph 6). Such information may include the visitor's city, state, and e-mail, the automobile's make, model, year, color, number of doors, and mileage, miles allowed on lease, monthly lease payment, months remaining on lease, and down payment required to acquire the lease, if any (see page 2, paragraph 25). The record created by the visitor is stored in a database (see page 1, paragraph 6). If the visitor intends to view a record or records, the visitor is directed to a page at the website where the visitor can view at least one record of a leased automobile (see page 1, paragraph 6). The method enables the visitor to delete or modify an existing vehicle lease record only if the existing vehicle lease record is associated with the listing visitor (see page 2, paragraphs 8, 10).

Claim 1 recites a method for operating a computer to facilitate a lease transaction, the method comprising the steps of “providing a database for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...prompting a customer to select a lease transaction type for a specific type of equipment to be leased...prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements...matching the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules...receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document...and generating the at least one document using the modified customer provided information.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the method as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a method that includes prompting a customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for a selected lease transaction type wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements, matching the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules, receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document, and generating the at least one document using the modified customer provided information.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 2-8 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 2-8 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-8 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 9 recites a computer programmed to “store, in a database, information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased...prompt a customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements...match the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules...receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document...and generate the at least one document using the modified customer provided information.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the computer as recited in Claim 9. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a computer programmed to prompt a customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for a selected lease transaction type wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements, match the customer provided information with equipment information stored within a database by applying predetermined search rules, receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document, and generate the at least one document using the modified customer provided information.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 9 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 9 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 10-16 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 9 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 10-16 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 9, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 10-16 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 17 recites a database including “a first set of data corresponding to an availability query submitted by a customer and related to a lease transaction, the first set of data including criteria for equipment to be leased and additional lease requirements...a second set of data corresponding to information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment, and if the equipment is being leased, the terms of the lease...a third set of data corresponding to predetermined search rules that are applied to match the first set of data with the equipment information in the second set of data...and a fourth set of data corresponding to modifications of the first set of data that are made by a lessor.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the database as recited in Claim 17. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a database that includes a first set of data including criteria for equipment to be leased and additional lease requirements, a third set of data corresponding to predetermined search rules that are applied to match the first set of data with equipment information in the second set of data, and a fourth set of data corresponding to modifications of the first set of data that are made by a lessor.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 17 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 17 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 18-20 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 17 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 18-20 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 17, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 18-20 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 21 recites a system for generating lease documents that includes “a database comprising information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased...the database including the terms of the lease...and a server configured to: prompt a customer to provide information required to generate a document for a selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of an equipment and additional lease requirements...match the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules...prompt a lessor to select a type of document to be generated and to provide information required to generate the selected document type...and receive information entered by the lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the document.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the system as recited in Claim 21. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a system that includes a server configured to prompt a customer to provide information required to generate a document for a selected lease transaction type wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of equipment and additional lease requirements, match the customer provided information with equipment information by applying predetermined search rules, prompt a lessor to select a type of document to be generated and to provide information required to generate the selected document type, and receive information entered by the lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the document.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 21 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 21 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 22-29 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 21 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 22-29 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 21, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 22-29 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 30 recites a method for initiating a lease transaction that includes “prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased...prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction...the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements...prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction...matching the customer provided information with equipment information by applying predetermined search rules, the equipment information including specifications for equipments and...if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...and receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the method as recited in Claim 30. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a method that includes prompting a customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to a lease transaction wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements, matching the customer provided information with equipment information by applying predetermined search rules, and receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 30 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 30 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 31-37 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 30 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 31-37 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 30, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 31-37 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 38 recites a method for initiating a lease transaction that includes “providing a database for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...selecting, by a customer, from an electronic interface, a lease transaction type for a specific type of equipment to be leased...identifying, by the customer, from the electronic interface, information including criteria of equipment desired to be subject to the lease and additional lease requirements...requesting, by the customer, from the electronic interface, a term sheet for the selected lease type and identified equipment...matching the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules...and receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the system as recited in Claim 38. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a method that includes identifying, by a customer, information including criteria of equipment desired to be subject to a lease and additional lease requirements, matching the customer provided information with equipment information by applying predetermined search rules, and receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 38 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 38 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 39-42 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 38 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 39-42 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 38, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 39-42 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 43 recites an apparatus including “means for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...means for prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased...means for prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information including criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements...means for prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction...means for matching the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules...and means for receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest an apparatus as recited in Claim 43. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest an apparatus that includes means for prompting a customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to a lease transaction wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements, means for matching the customer provided information with equipment information by applying predetermined search rules, and means for receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease

payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 43 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 43 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 44-50 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 43 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 44-50 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 43, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 44-50 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 51 recites a system for facilitating a lease transaction for aircraft that includes “a database comprising information relating to a plurality of aircrafts for lease including specifications for each aircraft and, if the aircraft is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...and a server configured to...prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of aircraft to be leased...prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft desired to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft and additional lease requirements...prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction...receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet...and match, based on a set of rules, the customer provided information with the aircraft information, the set of rules including at least one of countries in which aircraft can be leased, a tax based restriction on aircraft enforced in some of the countries, and whether aircraft is newly manufactured.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the system as recited in Claim 51. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a system that includes a server configured to prompt a customer to provide information regarding an aircraft desired to be subject to a lease transaction wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft and additional lease requirements, receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet, and match based on a set of rules the customer provided information with the aircraft information wherein the set of rules includes at least one of countries in which aircraft can be leased, a tax based restriction on aircraft enforced in some of the countries, and whether aircraft is newly manufactured.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 51 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 51 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 52-57 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 51 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 52-57 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 51, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 52-57 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 58 recites a system for facilitating a lease transaction for an aircraft engine that includes “a database comprising information for aircraft engines for lease including specifications for each aircraft engine and, if the aircraft engine is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...a server configured to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of aircraft engine to be leased...prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft engine desired to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft engine and additional lease requirements...prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction...match the customer provided information with the aircraft engine information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules...and receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the system as recited in Claim 58. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a system that includes a server configured to prompt a customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine desired to be subject to a lease transaction wherein the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft engine and additional lease requirements, match the customer provided information with aircraft engine information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules, and

receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 58 is patentable over Joseph.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 58 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 59-64 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 58 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 59-64 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 58, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 59-64 are also patentable over Joseph.

Claim 65 recites a computer-readable medium including “a record of customer submitted availability queries, the customer submitted availability queries includes criteria of an equipment and additional lease requirements...a plurality of rules for matching equipment information to the customer submitted availability queries, the equipment information including specifications for each piece of equipment, and if an equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease...a first record of results from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted availability queries...and a second record of results from information entered by a lessor to modify the customer submitted availability queries.”

Joseph does not describe nor suggest the computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 65. More specifically, Joseph does not describe nor suggest a computer-readable medium that includes a record of customer submitted availability queries wherein the customer submitted availability queries include criteria of equipment and additional lease requirements, a plurality of rules for matching equipment information to the customer submitted availability queries, a first record of results from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted availability queries,

and a second record of results from information entered by a lessor to modify the customer submitted availability queries.

Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Joseph describes a method that enables only one party who creates a vehicle lease record to delete or modify the vehicle lease record. Moreover, Joseph describes that the creating party can only modify factual information included within the record such as city, state, e-mail, make, model, year, color, and monthly lease payment but not terms of the lease being transferred or assumed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 65 is patentable over Joseph.

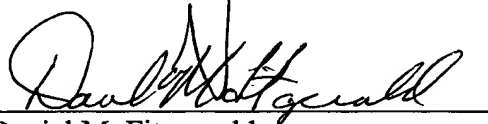
For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 65 is patentable over Joseph.

Claims 66-70 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 65 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 66-70 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 65, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 66-70 are also patentable over Joseph.

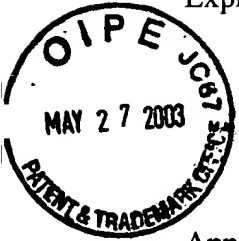
For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-70 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel M. Fitzgerald", is written over a horizontal line.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No.: 09/723,640 : Art Unit: 3621
Filed: November 28, 2000 : Examiner: Firmin Backer
For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS :
FOR LEASING EQUIPMENT :

SUBMISSION OF MARKED UP CLAIMS

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Submitted herewith are Marked Up Claims in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (once amended) A method for operating a computer to facilitate a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

— providing a database for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

prompting a customer to select a lease transaction type for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements; [and]

matching the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules;

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receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document; and

generating the at least one document using the modified customer provided information.

6. (once amended) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of searching a database to identify equipment which match the criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information required to generate at least one document, and displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

9. (once amended) A computer programmed to:

store, in a database, information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

prompt a customer to provide information required to generate at least one document for the selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements; [and]

match the customer provided information with the equipment information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules;

receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the at least one document; and

generate the at least one document using the modified customer provided information.

14. (once amended) A computer according to Claim 9 further programmed to search a database to identify equipment which match the criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information required to generate the at least one document,

and to display to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

17. (once amended) A database comprising:

a first set of data corresponding to an availability query submitted by a customer and related to a lease transaction, the first set of data including criteria for equipment to be leased and additional lease requirements; [and]

a second set of data corresponding to information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including [equipment criteria for equipments for lease.]specifications for each piece of equipment, and if the equipment is being leased, the terms of the lease;

a third set of data corresponding to predetermined search rules that are applied to match the first set of data with the equipment information in the second set of data; and

a fourth set of data corresponding to modifications of the first set of data that are made by a lessor.

18. (once amended) A database according to Claim 17 further comprising a fifth set of data corresponding to search results from execution of the availability query.

19. (once amended) A database according to Claim 17 further comprising a fifth set of data corresponding to a customer desired equipment configuration.

20. (once amended) A database according to Claim 17[17further] further comprising a fifth set of data corresponding to availability of equipment for lease.

21. (once amended) A system for generating lease documents, said system comprising:

a database comprising [data corresponding to equipment criteria for equipment for lease]information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the database including the terms of the lease; and

a server configured to:

prompt a customer to provide information required to generate a document for a selected lease transaction type, the customer provided information includes criteria of an equipment and additional lease requirements;

match the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules;

prompt a [marketing executive]lessor to select a type of document to be generated and to provide information required to generate the selected document type[.]; and

receive information entered by the lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the document.

22. (once amended) A system according to Claim 21 wherein said database further comprises at least one of data corresponding to an availability query submitted by [a]the lessor including a marketing executive and related to a lease transaction, data corresponding to search results from execution of the availability query, data corresponding to a marketing executive desired equipment configuration, and data corresponding to availability of equipment for lease.

26. (once amended) A system according to Claim 21 wherein to prompt [a]the lessor including a marketing executive to provide information required to generate the selected document type, said server is configured to cause to be displayed at a client computer a screen listing [a plurality of] the equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

27. (once amended) A system according to Claim 21 wherein said server is configured to cause said database to be searched to identify equipment which match criteria supplied in response to prompting the lessor including a marketing executive to provide information required to generate the selected document type, and to display at a client computer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified as a match from the database search.

28. (once amended) A system according to Claim 27 wherein said server is further configured to prompt [a]the marketing executive to select at least one of the identified equipment, and wherein to generate the selected document type using the customer provided

information, said server is configured to populate the selected document type with data related to the one identified equipment.

30. (once amended) A method for initiating a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information includes criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements; [and]

prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction[.];

matching the customer provided information with equipment information by applying predetermined search rules, the equipment information including specifications for a plurality of equipment and, if a piece of equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease; and

receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.

33. (once amended) A method according to Claim 32 wherein for a lease extension, prompting [a]the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises the step of displaying information related to at least one lease to the customer.

34. (once amended) A method according to Claim 30 wherein prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises the step of displaying a computer generated screen listing [a plurality of]the equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

35. (once amended) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising the steps of searching a database to identify equipment which match the equipment criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information regarding the equipment

to be subject to the lease transaction, and displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified from the database search.

38. (once amended) A method for initiating a lease transaction, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a database for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

selecting, by a customer, from an electronic interface, a lease transaction type for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

identifying, by the customer, from the electronic interface, information including criteria of equipment desired to be subject to the lease and additional lease requirements;

requesting, by the customer, from the electronic interface, a term sheet for the selected lease type and identified equipment[.];

matching the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules; and

receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.

41. (once amended) A method according to Claim 38 wherein identifying information including criteria of the equipment desired to be subject to the lease comprises the step of identifying the desired equipment type and the criteria to be satisfied by the desired equipment.

43. (once amended) Apparatus comprising:

means for storing information relating to a plurality of equipment for lease including specifications for each piece of equipment and, if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

means for prompting a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of equipment to be leased;

means for prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information including criteria of the equipment and additional lease requirements; [and]

means for prompting the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction[.];

means for matching the customer provided information with the equipment information by applying predetermined search rules; and

means for receiving information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information for generating the term sheet.

47. (once amended) Apparatus according to Claim 43 wherein said means for prompting the customer to provide information regarding equipment to be subject to the lease transaction comprises means for displaying a computer generated screen listing [a plurality of]the equipment criteria and delivery requirements.

48. (once amended) Apparatus according to Claim 43 further comprising means for searching a database to identify equipment which match the equipment criteria supplied by the customer in response to prompting the customer to provide information regarding the equipment to be subject to the lease transaction, and means for displaying to the customer at least some information relating to at least some of the equipment identified from the database search.

49. (once amended) Apparatus according to Claim 48 further comprising means for generating [a]the term sheet using the customer provided information.

51. (once amended) A system for facilitating a lease transaction for aircraft, said system comprising:

a database comprising [data for aircraft;]information relating to a plurality of aircrafts for lease including specifications for each aircraft and, if the aircraft is currently being leased, the terms of the lease; and

a server configured to:

prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction[,]for a specific type of aircraft to be leased;

prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft desired to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft and additional lease requirements;[, and]

prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction[.];

receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet; and

match, based on a set of rules, the customer provided information with the aircraft information, the set of rules including at least one of countries in which aircraft can be leased, a tax based restriction on aircraft enforced in some of the countries, and whether the aircraft is newly manufactured.

54. (once amended) A system according to Claim 53 wherein for a lease extension, to prompt [a]the customer to provide information regarding aircraft to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer information related to at least one lease to the customer.

55. (once amended) A system according to Claim 51 wherein to prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a display listing [a plurality of]the aircraft criteria and delivery requirements.

56. (once amended) A system according to Claim 51 wherein said server is further configured to search said database to identify aircraft which match the aircraft criteria supplied by the customer, and to cause to be displayed on a customer computer at least some information relating to at least some of the aircraft identified from the database search.

58. (once amended) A system for facilitating a lease transaction for an aircraft engine, said system comprising:

a database comprising [data]information for aircraft engines for lease including specifications for each aircraft engine and, if the aircraft engine is currently being leased, the terms of the lease;

a server configured to prompt a customer to select a type of lease transaction for a specific type of aircraft engine to be leased, prompt the customer to provide information regarding aircraft engine desired to be subject to the lease transaction, the customer provided information includes criteria of the aircraft engine and additional lease requirements, [and] prompt the customer to request generation of a term sheet for the lease transaction, match the customer provided information with the aircraft engine information stored within the database by applying predetermined search rules; and receive information entered by a lessor to modify the customer provided information to generate the term sheet.

61. (once amended) A system according to Claim 60 wherein for a lease extension, to prompt [a]the customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer information related to at least one lease to the customer

62. (once amended) A system according to Claim 58 wherein to prompt the customer to provide information regarding an aircraft engine to be subject to the lease transaction, said server causes to be displayed on a customer computer a computer generated screen listing [a plurality of] the aircraft engine criteria and delivery requirements.

63. (once amended) A system according to Claim 58 wherein said server is further configured to search said database to identify aircraft engines which match the aircraft engine criteria supplied by the customer, and to cause to be displayed on a customer computer at least

some information relating to at least some of the aircraft engines identified from the database search.

65. (once amended) A computer-readable medium, comprising:

a record of customer submitted availability queries, the customer submitted availability queries includes criteria of equipment to be leased and additional lease requirements;

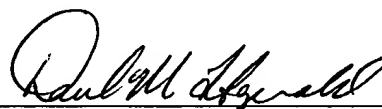
a plurality of rules for matching equipment information to the customer submitted availability queries, the equipment information including specifications for each piece of equipment, and if the equipment is currently being leased, the terms of the lease; [and]

a first record of results from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted availability queries[.]; and

a second record of results from information entered by a lessor to modify the customer submitted availability queries.

69. (once amended) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 65 wherein said first record of results comprises a result number, a query number, and a term sheet request.

Respectfully Submitted,



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